

# CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service  
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: November 5, 2006  
RELEASED: November 6, 2006

FREQUENCY: Weekly  
VOL. 27 NO. 18

## WEATHER



Dry and stable weather characterized the last few days of October statewide with near or slightly cooler than normal temperatures. By November 1<sup>st</sup>, change was in the offing as the first active storm systems of the fall season began to shift southward from the Pacific Northwest with rain developing across far northern California. The rain focus shifted south on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month with soaking-type rains affecting areas mainly north of the Bay Area to Sacramento, to Lake Tahoe line. Scattered, much lighter rainfall amounts extended south to near Morro Bay on the central coast and Fresno in the San Joaquin Valley during this period. Meanwhile, southern California remained dry through the week with high pressure building and temperatures trending to above normal readings. This building, fair weather high pressure ridge extended into central and northern portions of the State by the end of the period. The previously moistened Central Valley experienced the first dense fog events of the season by November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The active Pacific Northwest storm pattern continued just north of the Golden State through the end of the period. Far northwest coastal sections of California continued to report some rainfall each day.

## FIELD CROPS

**Rice** harvest continued, with some delays due to wet weather. Most **cotton** has been defoliated, and harvest was ongoing. Some harvested fields of silage **corn**, **oats** and **wheat** were tilled and planted to winter forage crops. Oat, **barley** and wheat planting continued and emerged fields were fertilized and irrigated. The final cutting of **alfalfa** hay was ongoing, with remaining fields being green chopped. Newly planted alfalfa was irrigated and fertilized. Silage corn harvest was nearing completion. **Sorghum** was harvested. **Black-eye bean** harvest was complete in most areas. The **sweet potato** harvest in the San Joaquin Valley was almost complete. **Potatoes** were harvested in Kern County. **Sugar beets** were harvested in Fresno County, and some growers were fumigating ground for the next crop. **Triticale** was planted in the San Joaquin Valley.

## FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit harvest was complete with cultural practices such as irrigating, pruning, fertilizing, herbicide applications and the pushing out of old orchards for replanting still underway. **Figs** and **apples** continued to be harvested. Foothill and Wonderful variety **pomegranate** harvest was ongoing, but at a much slower rate. Hachiya and Fuyu variety **persimmons** were harvested. Hayward **kiwi** growers continued to harvest their crop. **Grape** vineyard cultural activities were underway including irrigation, pruning, fertilizing and shredding. Autumn Royal, Crimson, Thompson, and Red Globe table and juice grape varieties were still being harvested. The dried-on-the-vine raisin harvest ended. New Navel **orange** harvest in Tulare County has begun with Fukumotos, TI's, Early Becks, and Fisher varieties being picked. New Navel orchards showed good growth. Some citrus growers were treating to control fungus. Picking of **lemons** and **tangerines** was underway in some districts. Fall **raspberries** were growing well.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** harvest continued at a slow rate with pruning operations underway. **Walnuts** and **pistachios** were harvested. Ground preparations were still taking place in some walnut orchards.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

**Spinach** harvest resumed. **Cantaloupe**, **honeydew** and **watermelon** harvests were complete in Fresno County. Late season processing **tomato** and **sweet corn** harvests remained underway, though they were slowed by the cooler weather. Fall **broccoli** and **lettuce** fields were in various stages of growth while some fields were sprayed for worms. Fall **asparagus** harvest progressed. **Amaranth**, **basil**, **carrots**, **cilantro**, **cucumbers**, **green beans**, **long beans**, **fava beans** and **wax beans**, **eggplant**, **mustard greens**, **squash**, various hot and sweet **peppers**, **parsley** and other Asian vegetables continued to be harvested.

## LIVESTOCK

The first significant rain of the winter pasture season increased the number of beef cows moving to foothill pastures. The heaviest movement was from higher elevation pastures. Fall calving of beef cows on rangeland continued. Beef cattle were receiving proteins and other supplements. Hay feedings were increasing at lower elevations. Some rangeland cattle were rounded up and taken to market. Sheep were grazing in harvested alfalfa fields and on retired farm land. Fall lambing was in full swing. The weather was excellent for milk production. Bees were being stored at various staging locations in the central areas.



CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 11/05/06

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/05/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/05/06	January 1 - 11/05/06	Week Ending 11/05/06	July 1 - 11/05/06	July 1 - 11/05/06	July 1 - June 30
	- - Degrees Fahrenheit - -				- - Number - -		- - Inches - -			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	53	0	65	34	18	0	1.33	2.17	4.65	37.53
Ukiah	56	0	72	34	1,762	1,454	0.46	0.77	3.72	37.96
Santa Rosa	58	0	74	45	918	923	1.16	1.77	3.08	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	58	0	70	45	560	443	0.26	0.60	1.69	19.70
San Jose	61	2	71	47	1,458	1,334	0.07	0.41	1.44	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,642	1,457	0.00	0.00	1.35	14.21
Salinas AP	59	1	74	42	499	432	0.00	0.00	1.20	12.44
Monterey FAA	58	1	74	47	292	145	0.09	0.14	2.36	18.72
King City	59	1	78	38	1,437	1,043	0.00	0.36	0.96	11.44
Paso Robles AP	59	2	77	37	1,753	1,552	0.00	0.63	1.10	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	54	-3	69	35	2,958	2,504	0.55	0.81	3.46	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	55	-3	69	36	2,872	2,610	0.58	0.69	2.87	22.29
Chico AFS	57	0	76	37	2,595	2,043	0.72	0.87	2.50	26.32
Marysville	55	-4	71	36	2,472	2,442	0.95	1.14	2.07	21.04
Sacramento AP	57	-1	71	38	2,031	1,932	0.50	0.79	1.60	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	58	0	73	38	2,376	2,214	0.21	0.87	1.46	13.95
Fresno	60	1	77	42	3,143	2,792	0.01	0.09	1.03	10.60
Bakersfield	61	0	77	43	3,262	3,128	0.00	0.31	0.63	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	64	6	89	46	810	410	0.00	0.36	1.01	12.36
Santa Barbara	59	0	80	43	804	736	0.01	0.21	1.45	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,352	937	0.00	0.00	0.99	14.38
Los Angeles	67	1	90	55	2,644	2,383	0.00	0.34	0.95	14.77
Riverside	66	3	87	46	3,119	2,373	0.00	0.09	0.82	9.58
San Diego AP	65	0	82	56	1,994	1,763	0.00	0.81	0.89	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	50	0	74	23	1,824	1,552	0.00	0.78	0.84	5.37
Lancaster	60	5	79	33	2,826	2,343	0.00	0.11	0.84	6.92
Daggett AP	63	1	79	45	4,290	3,937	0.00	0.05	1.33	3.93
Thermal AP	69	2	92	49	5,030	4,840	0.00	0.03	1.16	3.16
Blythe	67	0	87	48	5,519	5,345	0.00	3.09	1.76	3.60
Imperial	70	1	90	49	5,479	5,091	0.00	0.08	1.11	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	40	-1	59	12	590	296	0.22	0.51	2.29	12.01
Mt. Shasta	45	0	58	25	845	446	0.48	0.60	4.74	37.02
Blue Canyon	49	1	59	41	1,192	574	1.77	2.78	8.03	67.04
Yosemite	52	2	73	33	1,396	1,090	0.03	1.11	4.64	37.05

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (- -) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.